

U.S. Department of Energy



Office of Science

Applied Math Research Program Update

Homer Walker
ASCR Advisory Committee Meeting
Gaithersburg, MD
November 6, 2007



Applied Math Program

- **Research on the mathematical methods and numerical algorithms that enable the effective description, understanding, and prediction of complex physical, biological, and human-engineered systems.**
- **Current research support includes**
 - *PDEs, ODEs, dynamical systems*
 - *linear and nonlinear solvers*
 - *optimization*
 - *meshing*
 - *computational fluid dynamics*
 - *multiscale mathematics*

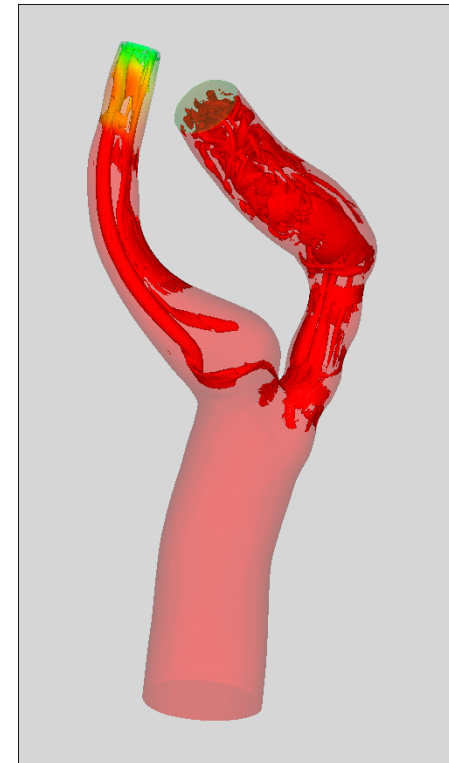


Highlighted FY07 Accomplishment

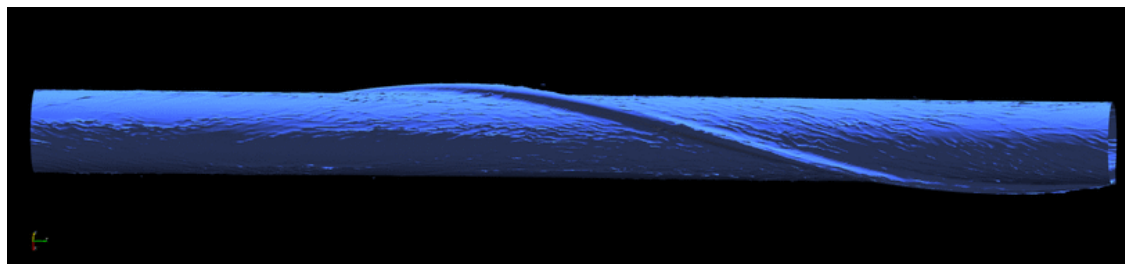
Paul Fischer, ANL

Nek5000 Applications Pave the Way to Petascale

- Spectral-element multigrid code with parallel coarse-grid solver
- Scales to petascale platforms
- Previously shared the 1999 Gordon Bell Prize (Special Category)
- 2007 accomplishments include
 - *Magnetorotational instabilities (MRI) simulations*
 - *Reactor thermal-hydraulics simulations (below)*
 - *Turbulent vascular flow simulations (right)*

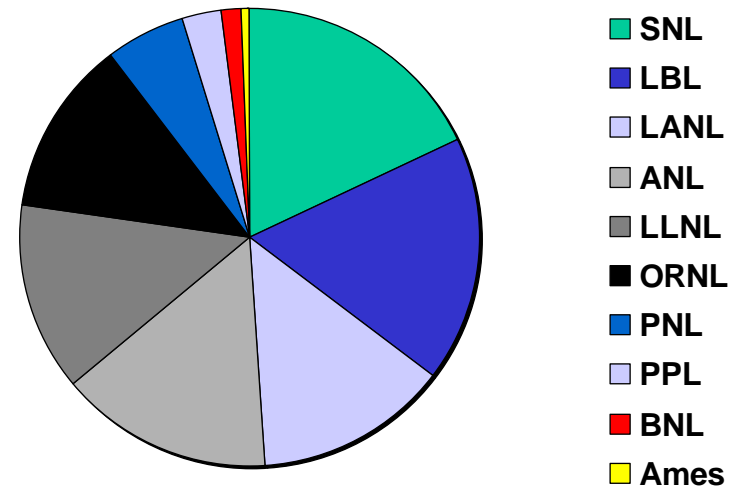
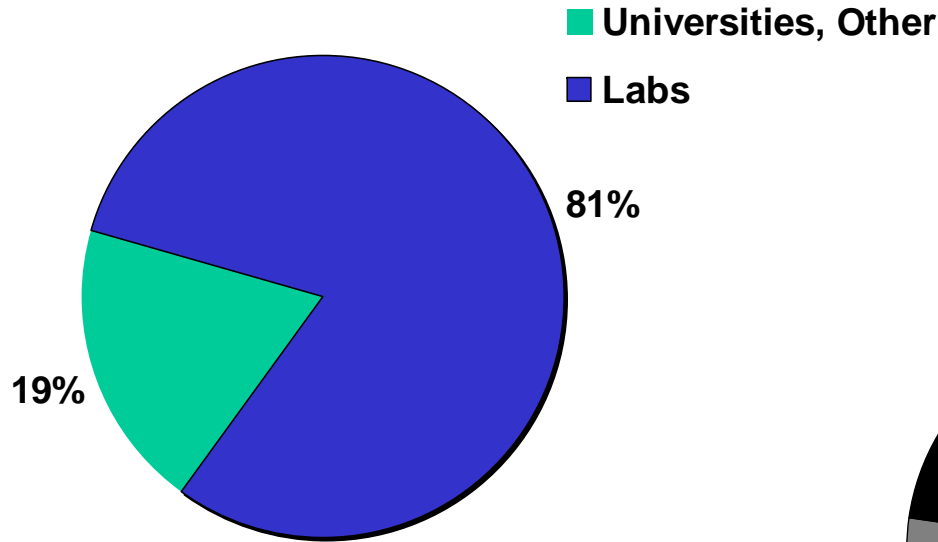


Above: coherent structures arising near a carotid artery with severe stenosis, $Re = 1400$. Simulations performed on ANL's IBM BGL using 1024 processors. Featured in NY Times article



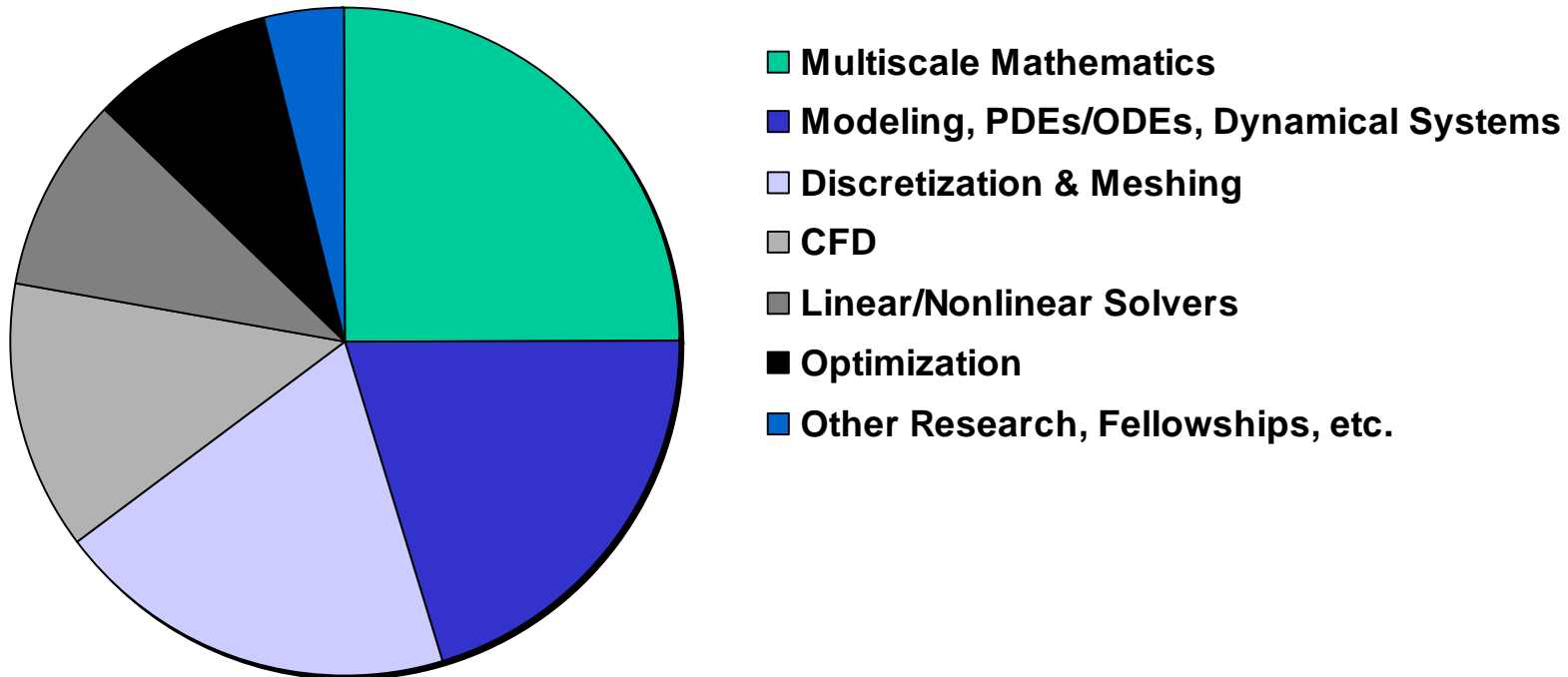
Left: turbulent flow past a wire-wrapped fuel pin in a liquid metal-cooled reactor (iso-surface of axial velocity component). Note the turbulence-induced low-speed streaks reaching from the boundary layer into the bulk flow domain.

Current FY08 Plan



- Based on \$22.4M
- Does not include awards delayed by the continuing resolution
- Does not include \$5M for CSGF

Allocations by Area

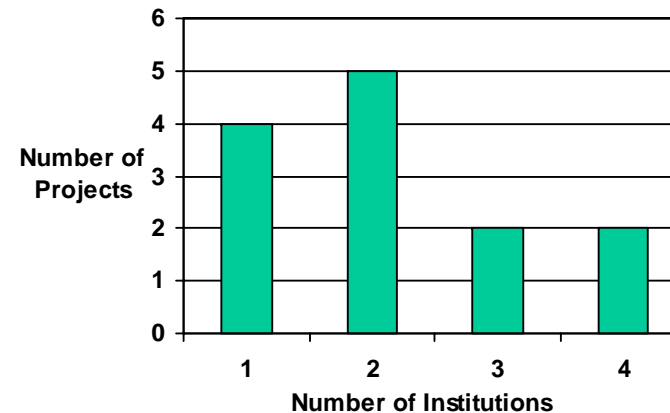


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Multiscale Mathematics Research & Education

- **2005 announcement**
 - *Advancement of multiscale mathematics research*
 - *Innovative approaches to multiscale mathematics education*
 - *Inter-institutional collaboration encouraged*
 - *Up to \$5.8M anticipated in FY05*
- **13 projects, 28 institutions funded**
 - *\$5.6M planned for FY08*
 - *Almost all will terminate in 8/08*

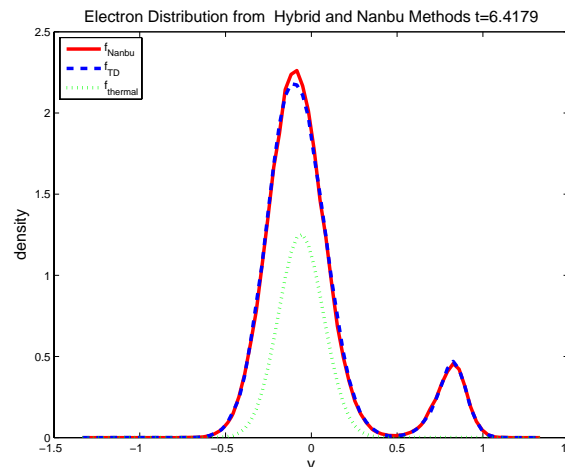
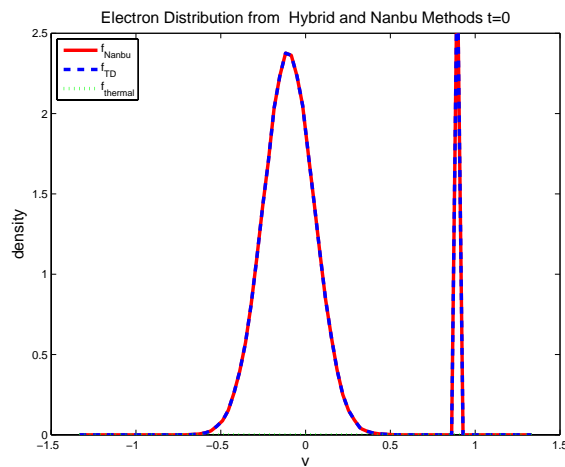


Highlighted FY07 MM Accomplishment

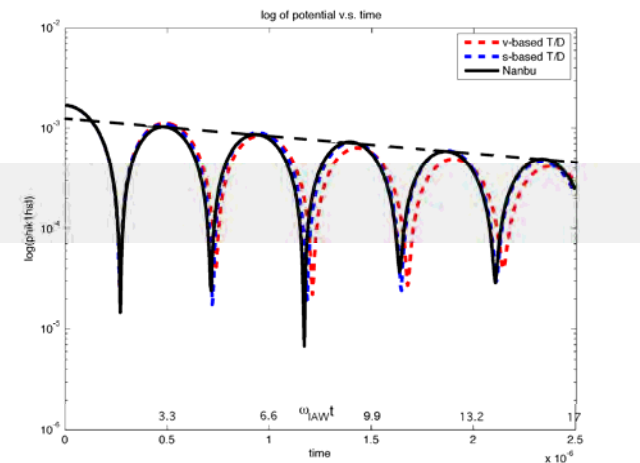
UCLA (R. Caflisch, R. Wang), LLNL (A. Dimits, B. Cohen)

Multiscale Mathematics for Plasma Kinetics Spanning Multiple Collisionality Regimes

- **Motivation:** Wide range of collisional time scales are a major bottleneck for plasma simulations
- **Goals:** Accelerated methods that combine multiple time and length scales for Coulomb collisions
- **Results:** A hybrid particle/continuum method and applications to test problems.



Velocity distributions initially (left) and at $t = 6.4179$ (right). The blue curve is from the hybrid method; the red is from the standard “exact” method.



Oscillation and decay of ion acoustic waves.

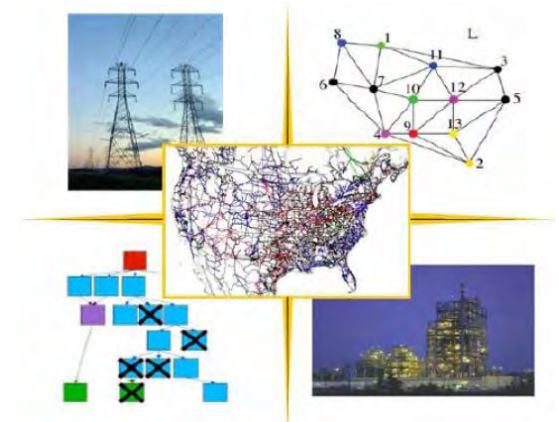
Upcoming

- **Announcement**

- continuation of multiscale mathematics

- optimization of complex systems

- ***Many** components (possibly dissimilar), complex connectivity (usually nonlinear), hard-to-predict behavior (often highly sensitive)*
 - *Examples: power grid control and optimization, the nuclear fuel lifecycle, fossil fuel power generation, risk assessment for cybersecurity*
 - *New mathematical insights needed in modeling, large-scale mixed-variable optimization, sensitivity and risk analysis, statistical methods for validation, integration of models with data for adaptive control and decision making*



From "Mathematical Research Challenges in Optimization of Complex Systems," report on a DOE Workshop, December 7-8, 2006, organizers Bruce A. Hendrickson and Margaret H. Wright.

Upcoming (cont.)

- **Applied Math PI meeting**
- **Workshop on mathematics for understanding petascale data sets**
 - *R. L. Orbach AAAS talk, Feb. 2006, “New Opportunities for Data and Information management: Finding the Dots, Connecting the Dots, Understanding the Dots”*
 - *Need innovative mathematical approaches and techniques for finding the scientific knowledge in massive, complex data sets*
 - *Workshop goals: understand the needs of various scientific domains, translate these into mathematical approaches and techniques, assess the current state-of-the-art, target gaps and shortfalls that must be addressed.*
 - *Resonates with activities at NSF and DARPA.*
- **Strategic plan**
 - *Informed by the report of a panel chaired by David Brown to assess DOE challenges and opportunities in applied and computational mathematics*